

## MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR THURSDAY, APRIL 9, 2020

Today, Tarrant County Public Health reported an additional 49 positive cases overnight. This brings the County-wide total to 637 with 20 deaths. TCPH is reporting 129 Tarrant County hospital beds are currently being occupied by confirmed cases. This equates to roughly 4% of the total bed capacity in the County.

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention, the US Department of Justice, and the Federal Communications Commission are all reporting an increase in SCAMS related to COVID-19. There are numerous scams taking place at present. Do not respond to calls or texts from unknown numbers. Do not share any personal or financial information via email, text messages, or over the phone. Remember, government agencies will never call you to ask for personal information or money.

We continue to get encouragement from Texas Health HEB Hospital. They have performed hundreds of tests and have treated 36 positive cases to date, with no deaths. Recently, they brought testing in-house and are now able to produce test results within 15 minutes. This has been a considerable help with treatments and managing bed space. The Hospital staff continues to reiterate that they have a substantial number of beds available and are confident in their capacity to handle any anticipated needs that their modeling is projecting.

In addition, the HEB Hospital staff expresses their appreciate for all the cards, letters, and food the Bedford community has donated over the past two weeks. They have seen a tremendous amount of outpouring from our residents and this has lifted the spirits of everyone on staff. Local businesses and restaurants have been going out of their way to deliver meals such as, pizzas, chicken sandwiches, smoothies, and more, to feed everyone in the hospital. Even a local Girl Scout troop donated 104 boxes of cookies. Thank you all, for supporting a staple in our community, the HEB Hospital and its dedicated staff.

One last note, the Hospital staff has expressed their belief that the early actions by the cities of Hurst, Euless, and Bedford has made an impact. By moving quickly to limit social gatherings, it is their conclusion that our community helped to impede the virus' ability to work through the population. LET'S NOT GET COMPLACENT – DON'T LET YOUR GUARD DOWN. Social distancing is working in HEB.